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The Massachusetts State Board of Arbitration have made earnest efforts to bring about a settlement of the great strike in the Fall River Mills, but so far without success.

News from the East indicate that the Japanese are determined to carry the war into China. All the efforts of England and the other powers to bring about a cessation of hostilities have failed. China, it is understood, was willing to grant the independence of Corea and to pay a war indemnity. But Japan has rejected all offers of mediation and proposes to dictate her own terms of peace. A special session of the Japanese Parliament has been held at Hiroshima, at which it was declared by resolution that no foreign influence would be allowed to interfere with Japan's purpose to secure a guaranty of permanent peace in the Orient. Reports said a battle took place at Wiju on the 22nd ult. and that each side lost 3,000 men, the Japanese retiring southward. Later reports indicate that the Japanese have driven the Chinese across the Yalu river, that Port Arthur has been abandoned and that the army of Japan is now on Chinese soil. Large bodies of troops are being massed about Pekin for its defence.

Some uneasiness has been caused by the condition of affairs in Madagascar. A rupture was thought possible between England and France, but there has been no real danger of this. The Malagassy refuse to yield their independence to the French, in spite of the latter's protectorate over the island, and are likely to offer very grave obstacles, if France persists in her purpose to force submission. France's rights in Madagascar seem to be but little more than "treaty rights," in which the native people are left out of the count.

The South Carolina Peace Society held its twenty-second annual meeting in the Washington Street Chapel, Columbia, Oct. 2. The meeting was not large, but a very earnest one. Several interesting letters were read from friends of the cause who were unable to attend.

The Michigan Woman's Press Association, of which Mrs. Belle M. Perry of Charlotte, Michigan, is President, has prepared a Peace Day program for the celebration of Whittier's birthday, the 17th of December, in the public schools of Michigan. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction has promised to co-operate in securing the observance of the day by the teachers of the state. We need not say that we most cordially approve of the undertaking and wish a similiar one could be carried out in every state of the Union. The program prepared by Mrs. Perry would with slight changes be very suitable for any other State.

James Anthony Froude, the famous English historian and essayist, died at London, on the 20th of October, at the age of 76 years.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Death has been busy in the peace ranks during the past year. The last to go was Angelo Mazzoleni of Milan, Italy. His death came very suddenly and as a great surprise to nearly all except his most intimate friends who knew that an incurable disease was undermining his life and that he was doing his work with death staring him in the face. He was at the late Peace Congress at Antwerp, and we were struck at the time with the depth of conviction and the almost youthful freshness with which he advocated every sort of reform in international relations and in the education of the youth of all countries. whose result would be the eradication of international hatred and of a false national pride.

He went home from Antwerp to die. At his funeral E. T. Moneta, President of the Lombard Peace Union, of which Mr. Mazzoleni had been one of the most devoted members, expressed the sincere grief felt by all the friends of peace at the news of his death. He was, Mr. Moneta said, one of those who honor any country by the dignity of their life and the strength of their character. He believed that Italy had need primarily of a moral regeneration, without which no civil progress would be genuine or durable. He felt that unless high ideals of life should be given to the youth they would be enfeebled by scepticism or degraded by a low animalism. The family was to him the basis of social renovation. His first book was on this subject. He afterwards wrote a considerable number of small works treating of the peace movement. Being a member of the legal profession he gave special attention to the judicial aspects of the question, but its educational phases also called out his best efforts. Liberty was as dear to him as peace and his last public words were a protest against the threatened alliance of the Italian Government with the Papal authority.

Mr. Mazzoleni was willing to undergo neglect and obloquy for his opinions. When he was a member of the Italian Parliament he did his utmost in behalf of international treaties of arbitration. Though on account of his peace sentiments he lost his seat in Parliament, he did not therefore cease to maintain them, but became all the more earnest and untiring in their advocacy. We are grieved to lose him, but the idea of peace and human brotherhood has been lifted into fuller and more permanent recognition through his work, which will therefore never die.

Our readers will remember the letters from Italy published last year in the ADVOCATE from his pen. He was at the time of his death, in addition to his connection with the Lombard Peace Union a member of the Interparliamentary Peace Union and of the International Peace Bureau at Berne of which he was one of the founders.

We send to the Lombard Peace Union and to all Mr. Mazzoleni's friends an expression of our sincere sorrow and sympathy.

The death of Oliver Wendell Holmes on the 7th of October, at the age of 85 years, removes from our midst,— from the midst, that is, of all lovers of literature not only in America but wherever the English language is read — the last of that circle of eminent writers who have made it forever impossible for any fair-minded critic in any country to smile at the quality of American literature. Our literature, if not old, has been doubly fortunate in having among its builders that group of men pure-minded, original and artistic to which Dr. Holmes belonged. Hawthorne, Bryant, Longfellow, Taylor, Emerson, Whittier, Lowell, Holmes, — it is doubtful if any country ever possessed at any one time as long a list as this of literary men of the first order whose writings were almost, without exception, full of a lofty purpose and free from the moral blemishes found in the works of so many of the great lights of literature. It is something not to be despised that our country has in these men set the model of moral elevation which literature ought always to follow.

Dr. Holmes, if not as richly gifted in moral depth and earnestness as some of the other members of the group, was certainly the most original and, with the possible exception of Lowell, the most genial and witty of them all. The type of writing in which he excelled was unique. There are occasional gems of thought and expression in his poetry unsurpassed in our literature, but it was in his "Autocrats" that he hit upon the style of dress in which his thought, sparkling, many-sided and epigrammatic, clothed itself naturally and without trammel. He was for 35 years a Professor in the Harvard Medical School and did not commence his literary work till late in life. The *Atlantic Monthly* has been not a little indebted to his genial and racy pen for its success. He has given an incalcuable amount of innocent pleasure to the multitudes who have read his works, and a sense of personal loss has come to his many readers now that his pen is silent forever.

FIFTH INTERPARLIAMENTARY PEACE CONFERENCE.

The Interparliamentary Peace Union, to which reference has often been made in these columns, has had an almost phenominal growth. It began at Paris in 1889, with perhaps forty members from two parliaments, the English and the French. It was then an experiment and its originators, men of strong faith in principle though they were, could not have been made to believe at that time that they were the instruments of originating a movement which would soon overtop in importance every other movement of a political nature in Europe. Dr. Gobat, Secretary of the Bureau of the Union, told the writer at Antwerp this year that the organization now has a membership of 1200. These are all members of Parliament, with the exception of a few who have ceased to be members since they entered into the Union. Looking over the list of those who attended the recent Conference at the Hague, we find fifteen nations represented, viz., Germany, England, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Spain, Portugal, France, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Holland, Roumania, Sweden and Switzerland. We do not hesitate to say that this is the most important body of statesmen ever organized since history began. The character and rapid growth of the Union bear witness how deeply the ideas of international justice and concord have taken hold of the minds of thinking men.

No meeting of the Union was held last year. One was appointed for Christiania, but on account of certain changes in the Norwegian Government, it was given up. The Conference met this year on the 4th of September, in the historic First Chamber of the States General of Holland, in which the independence of the Netherlands was born. There were one hundred and thirty delegates present. By courtesy we were permitted to occupy a seat in the gallery where nearly a score of representatives of the press sat.

The meeting was opened with an excellent address by Mr. Van Houten, the Dutch Minister of the Interior, who, in the course of his remarks said, that no cause to which he might consecrate his energies equaled in greatness that of this Conference. Almost all the members of the First Chamber of Holland and a large majority of the Second Chamber had, he said, joined the Union.

After Mr. Van Houten's address of welcome, response was made by a member of each of the fifteen parliaments represented, chief attention being given in these replies to what had been done in the course of the year in the different countries.

Dr. Rahusen, of Amsterdam, a member of the First Chamber, was by acclamation chosen President of the Conference. He presided with great ability and grace, speaking Dutch, English, French, German, as the case might be.

The Constitution of the Interparliamentary Union, which had been prepared by the Bureau of the Union at Berne, was then taken up and with slight modifications adopted. The number constituting the Interparliamentary Bureau was so changed that it should hereafter be composed of one member from each of the parliaments in which a branch of the Union had been formed.

The principal subject on the program was the preparation of a plan for the organization of a permanent court of international arbitration. The Hon. Philip Stanhope, of the English House of Commons, read a paper which he had been asked to present on the subject. He confined himself to a statement of the fundamental principles on which such a court should be founded and asked that a commission of six members be appointed to prepare and